•315 The importance of oil extraction for the Far Eastern regions of the Soviet Union cannot be overestimated. The oil industry supplies the industrial regions in the interior as far as Transbaykal, all ocean and coastal shipping, and also the Far Eastern army. Without the oil of Sakhalin the Far Eastern region would have to import oil from overseas or from the European part of the Soviet Union. In the latter case the oil would have to be brought on the Siberian Railroad over a distance of 7,000 to 8,000 kilometers.

The oil industry in the Far Eastern region is included in the independent trust Sakhalinneft. The oil field at Okha is connected with the oil harbor at Moskal'vo on the western coast of the island by means of a railroad and an oil pipe. From the rest of the oil fields the oil is taken over on the coast by tank ships. Apart from two rather small refineries which are supposed to exist in Okha and in Moskal'vo, the bulk of the oil is processed on the mainland in the oil refineries of Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, and Komsomol'sk. An additional oil refinery is known in Ulan-Ude. Very recently Khabarovsk and Komsomol'sk have received modern cracking installations. The production capacity of the refineries in the two last named cities is estimated to be 1.2 million tons, and the cracking capacity is estimated to be 600,000 to 700,000 tons. An oil pipeline planned and required for a long time, is under construction, or is probably finished at present: it is to bring together all the oil extracted on Sakhalin and conduct it to the mainland to Komsomol'sk and Khabarovsk. The dam completed in 1952 between Sakhalin and the mainland will undoubtedly carry a part of this pipeline. Hassmann (80) reports in this connection that the oil

> 80. Hassmann, H. Erdöl in der Sowjetunion /Petroleum in the Soviet Union/. Hamburg, 1951.

pipe line is to lead from Okha to Nikolayevsk and then along the Amur via Komsomol'sk to Khabarovsk.

The total supply of petroleum in the former Russian part of Sakhalin Island is given at around 150 million tons. (2) /The footnote

> 2. Atlas der Vereisungsverhältnisse Russlands und Finnlands, /Atlas of Russian and Finnish Glaciation Conditions/ Prepared by the Deutsche Seewarte, Issued by the Oberkommando der Kriegsmarine (1942), Vol. II, p. 14.

reference here seems to be in error. Presumably the author meant to

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refer to footnote number 3:--translator/ The total production of

3. Atlas energeticheskikh resursov SSSR /Atlas of Sources of Energy in the USSR/, //Collected work under the editorship of A.V. Vinter, G.M. Krzhizhanovskii, and G.I. Lomov, 2 vols. (Moscow-Leningrad, 1934), Vol. II, p. 14/

Sakhalin Island, including that of the Japanese concession, amounted to 562,000 tons in 1938, but the Russian production, as numerous investigations have determined (59), could easily have been increased

59. Federov, S.F. Neftianyie mestorozhdeniia Sovetskogo Soiusa /The Petroleum Supplies in the USSR/. Moscow, 1939.

if it had not been limited by the shortage of means of transportation. According to the same source (59) the Soviet production in the same

59. Federov, S.F. Neftianyie mestorozhdenii Sovetskogo Soiusa /The Petroleum Supplies in the USSR/. Moscow, 1939.

year was only around 356,000 tons. According to Hassmann (80), the oil

80. Hassmann, H. Erdöl in der Sowjetunion /Petroleum in the Soviet Union/. Hamburg, 1951.

production in the last years after the war developed as follows:

1946	882,000 tons
1947	1,030,000 tons
1948	845,000 tons
1949	1,000,000 tons
1950	1,200,000 tons

One of the last success reports stated that the oil production of Sakhalin in 1952 exceeded that of 1948 by 65 percent. On the basis of the above figures, then, the oil extraction on Sakhalin in 1952 would have amounted to 1,396,200 tons. However, the above figures on the development in the post-war period are regarded as too low, especially the output for 1948 and the following years. Accordingly a total production for 1953 of 1.8 to 2.0 million tons cannot be regarded as being too high.

133 [137] which consists of recent and post-Pliocene deposits and which for the most part is covered by a tundra vegetation interlarded with bushes. The extent of this plain varies, being largest in the north around Sakhalin Bay. The plain ends in a 2 to 6 meter step which is delineated rather sharply everywhere. With this step the hill country then begins. This hill country as a rule bears a thick taiga consisting of spruces and larches. The watershed regions are scarcely perceptible in the relief, but they show up in thicker and higher forest growth. In places the hill country step also goes to the coast itself and then forms a higher, steep slope, which can reach 15 to 26 meters. (207) Taiga and sea

207. Tanfiliev, G.I., Geografiia Rossii: Relief Aziatskoi Rossii /Geography of Russia: The Relief of Asiatic Russia/, (Odessa, 1923), Vol. II, p. 266.

then come very close to one another.

Schmidt Peninsula, so named in honor of the well-known Sakhalin explorer, forms the extreme northern end of Sakhalin. This peninsula forms in miniature a true model of the geological and tectonic structure of the southern section of the island, with even the intrusive phenomena being the same. Here, too, we find an eastern mountain range and a western mountain range with a depression lying between. In the "Tri Brata," the "Three Brothers," the eastern mountain range reaches a height of 708 meters. For the most part this range declines steeply to the sea, and in the north it forms the rocky Cape Elizabeth, the most northerly point on Sakhalin. The western line of mountains, which likewise declines steeply to the sea, attains a height of only 406 meters. The depression lying in between ends in the north with a lake, which is separated from the sea by a narrow tongue of land. On the land narrows which connects Schmidt [315] Peninsula with the main part of the island lies the oil fields of Sakhalin which today have the richest yield.

Sakhalin's coast is generally but little divided up. In contrast to the more contiguous western coast, the northern coast and the east coast represent typical coasts with alluvial lands and numerous fresh-water lakes. Baykal Bay in the northern part of the island represents [305] the largest fresh-water lake. It can be traveled by coastal ships with a draught of up to 3.5 meters. Here on the eastern side of the bay lies Moskal'vo oil harbor, which has a railroad connection to the oil region in the eastern part of the peninsula. Still more strongly marked

The harbor has in very recent times been expanded and provided with modern loading equipment. Since the Tatar Sound is very shallow, this equipment had to be moved very far out into the sea. To be mentioned in second place is Okha (approximately 25,000 inhabitants), the most important center of the oil region on the northeastern coast. During the last war the city got a sea harbor of its own, which is supposed to be usable throughout the entire year. South of Okha lies Ekhabi, which has often been mentioned recently for its rising oil production. A railroad and an oil pipe lead from Okha to the oil harbor of Moskal'vo, which lies on the eastern side of Baykal Bay in the northern part of the island. Furthermore, in the past few years there have been established along the coast numerous, permanently inhabited fishing bases, which give life to the entire picture along the coastal strip. The largest part of the interior is still untouched and given over even today to the native population and their primitive economy.

In southern Sakhalin (Karafuto), which was formerly Japanese, the natural landscapes continue as they have already been generally described. The western mountain range, which here has heights of up to 1,375 meters, forms the backbone and stretches to the south beyond the 46th latitude, while the eastern mountain range already ends north of the 49th /282/ latitude. The Poronay Valley ends even before that after it has spread out to a width of 30 kilometers.

As in northern Sakhalin, so here, too, the largest part of the land is covered with primeval forests, which consist of the same type of trees as in the north, only here the percentage of deciduous trees is larger and increases especially on the lower slopes and last spurs of the western mountain range. Even though the climatic conditions became somewhat milder with the southern location, tundra-like moss steppes appear here also. Reindeer breeding is still pursued today by the native population, the Orok and the Tungus.

The population of southern Sakhalin was 332,000 in 1936 and 412,000 in 1940; the increase can be traced for the most part to immigration from Japan. Of the old, native peoples scarcely 2,000 existed; of these the Ainu, who number 1,500, constitute the main part. The rest is divided among Gilyak, Orok, and other Tungus tribes.

The economic importance of southern Sakhalin lies in the wood supply of its forests, in its coal deposits, and in the wealth of fish in the waters near the coast. The Japanese have done much for the economic development of the land and also have attained much. Above all they are to be thanked for the opening up of the land through